

News

Compiled by Antoinette Padgett

WHAT'S NEW ON RAPA NUI

Ka Haka Hoki Mai Te Mana Tupuna Repatriation Program

(As reported on Ka Haka Hoki Mai Te Manu Tupuna Repatriation Facebook page).

Ka Haka Hoki Mai Te Mana Tupuna is a community-based, independent, and autonomous program for the repatriation, care and reburial of Ivi Tupuna (human remains of Rapanui origin), based at the Museo Antropológico Padre Sebastián Englert (MAPSE). This museum-community collaboration signals the beginning of a renewed role of MAPSE as Hoa Kona, or guardian, that regards Ivi Tupuna as Tupuna, or ancestors, to be cared for in a consistent and culturally appropriate manner until a time is determined for the Ivi Tupuna to return to their place of origin or to an appropriate final resting place.

When seeking the return of Tupuna to Rapa Nui from overseas institutions, this program will only repatriate Ivi Tupuna with a clear Rapanui provenance. MAPSE will act as Hoa Kona, or guardian, of repatriated Tupuna in an interim basis only, until their final resting place is determined. MAPSE will neither purchase returning Tupuna, nor will repatriated Tupuna be part of MAPSE's collection.

Ka Haka Hoki Mai Te Mana Tupuna Repatriation Program is organized around two main working teams: the Motuha Hokiīŋa, or repatriation team, and the Koro Oroŋo, or advisory panel. Both teams work in collaboration and under the supervision of the Hatu, MAPSE's Chief Museographer. The Motuha Hokiīŋa is responsible for carrying on research, procedures, and negotiations for international repatriations, as well as for conducting research on the excavation contexts and territorial affiliation of repatriated Tupuna. The Koro Oroŋo is formed by respected members of the Rapanui community, knowledgeable in Rapanui history, worldviews, and genealogy. This committee provides support to the repatriation team in their research and issues of cultural protocols, and facilitates communication with the community to coordinate reburial ceremonies.

The team consists of Hatu – Museum Specialist, Pelayo Tuki Make; Koro Oroŋo – Advisory Panel, Zorobabel Fati Teao, Niso Tuki Tepano, Petero Huke Atan, Carlos Edmunds Paoa, Sara Tuki Tepano, Zoilo Huke Atan, Pau Hereveri Teao, Moi Moi Tuki Pakomio, and Te Pou Huke; Motuha Hokiīŋa – Repatriation

Team, Piru Huke Atan, María Eugenia Tuki Pakarati, Tarita Alarcón Rapu, and Jacinta Arthur de la Maza.

Ka Haka Hoki Mai Te Mana Tupuna Repatriation Program was born as an effort by Rapanui people to recover their collective *mana* as a Ma'ohi nation. While the plundering of Rapa Nui's past was one more agent of the colonial mission for disrupting Rapanui self-knowledge, the repatriation of Rapanui heritage can be an effective medium towards restoration through the healing of post-colonial trauma and the establishment of a new path for greater understanding and self-determination. The mission of the program is, first and foremost, to repatriate the human remains of Rapanui ancestors that are held today at museums worldwide and to rebury them in their original resting places.

The repatriation program and its research center aim to support the continuation of and reconnection with ceremonial life among Rapanui people; to foster and support the study by Rapanui people of their own traditions; and to forge consensus between museums and the Rapanui nation. In order to achieve these goals, they have needed to look for international collaboration, as there is no national repatriation policy in Chile. Creating the community-based, international repatriation program was a means to begin to change the history of abuse of the Rapanui indigenous nation by establishing a new path for greater understanding and collaboration.

Pelé inaugurates soccer field on Rapa Nui

(As reported on Chile.travel).

Brazilian soccer star Pelé (Edson Arantes do Nascimento) visited Rapa Nui in January to inaugurate the new *cancha* (stadium) on the island. The football legend is the only player in history to win three World Cups. While on the island, he enjoyed performances of the island's traditional dances, and even had his face painted in the style of the Rapanui *matato* 'a.

A highlight of his trip was visiting Ahu Tongariki, one of Rapa Nui's most important ceremonial sites. He joked that he would like to bring a *moai* back with him to Brazil. Pelé noted "Thanks to football I have been able to meet the Pope, to help children in the slums, I've even met the Queen of England, but I've always kept myself grounded, and now I have seen this incredible place, with its unparalleled solace."

Pelé shared much of his trip with the world via social media, giving his impressions of one of the planet's most intriguing and mysterious places. "It's a

unique and special place, and I'm learning a lot about this very ancient culture," he noted via Twitter, where he also expressed, "the peace and tranquility found on Rapa Nui is rare, and the love of the people here is incredible."

Historic transfer of Vaitea lands to the Rapanui people

(As reported by La Tercera; translation: Ana Betty Haoa Rapahango).

On January 1, the Ministry of Land of Chile launched the first public consultation on Rapa Nui to complete the transfer of the estate of Vaitea to the inhabitants of the island, as part of the land restitution commitment of 2010. The Minister of Land, Rodrigo Perez, noted that the process is unprecedented. The 1,051 hectares of land is located east of Hanga Roa and is now – in compliance with Convention 169 of the International Labor Organization – held by the Treasury Andes used for livestock production. This is the most significant land transfer in 10 years.

The Secretary of State added that "we want the Rapanui people to learn and participate. It is important for us to seek the views of the *koro* and *nua* (elders) and also the youngest island members." To this end, there have been informational workshops, posters, and radio and television ads.

Islanders who participate in this process may rule on two questions. The first is to determine whether they agree or not that the 1,051 acres, with plots of 2.5ha each, should be delivered to 262 Rapanui families who applied previously for the land through CORFO, the Development Corporation of the island. The second question deals with proposed alternative uses for the estate of Vaitea, including agricultural and livestock use to make the island self-sufficient, or incorporating the land as a national park and giving out smaller plots to islanders.

Alberto Hotus, president of the Council of Elders, noted that he was in favor of using the land to raise animals for emergencies in order to have resources to maintain the island. He added that it should not be for residential use, because there are already two areas (one with 30 hectares) for the construction of houses.

WHAT'S NEW AT THE MAPSE

MAPSE events

MAPSE celebrated their 40th anniversary in October with a month of activities, including a series of free programs for the entire community: talks, guided tours, a family event at the Tongariki Cultural Center, a painting and photography competition, and special

exhibitions. We congratulate MAPSE and wish them a happy 40th anniversary!

In October, the exhibition Hopu Manu – Guerreros Ancestrales de Rapa Nui by sculptor Tevo Pakarati was inaugurated at MAPSE. The collection includes a series of nine carved wooden sculptures, each representing a competitor (*hopu manu*) of the nine major clans during the ancestral birdman competition. The aim of the sculptor was to celebrate and commemorate the victory and defeat of all who lost their lives in the competition by capturing the strength, courage and passion of the competitors who were part of one of the most important events in Rapanui history, and to convey the importance of the identity and origins of the Rapanui to the community.

In November, the annual *Dia de Lengua Rapa Nui* (Mahana o te Re'o Rapanui) was held in the Aldea Educativa in Hanga Vare Vare. Schools, colleges, and institutions presented papers and artistic works related to the culture of Rapa Nui. MAPSE unveiled historic photographs of Rapanui people and showed timeline milestones in the history of the museum for their 40th anniversary. The entire community participated in the event.

In December, MAPSE and the Secretaria Técnica del Patrimonio conducted the first youth vocational meeting (Primer Encuentro Vocacional Juvenil) at the Tongariki Cultural Center to bring together young people on Rapa Nui who are interested in heritage issues. The program aims to stimulate vocational decisions of students and enhance the bonds between college students who return to the island and professionals residing on the island. It also emphasizes the need for young people to be active in the conservation and care of their heritage and to be involved in initiatives of local institutions and organizations. Information and details about careers in various heritage disciplines were presented and islanders who work as professionals in the field of cultural heritage management, including Merahi Lopez, Mahina Pakarati, Leo Pakarati, Tuhi'ira Tuki, and Irene and Vairoa Ika participated in the event.

In December, Mapuche songwriter Nancy San Martín and her musicians visited MAPSE and presented an educational exchange (Encuentro Cultural Ñuke Mapu) that included different activities dealing with music and culture. The program included a musical clinic for children, an exhibition on history and memory of the Mapuche people, a presentation on ancient sounds using Mapuche and other world music instruments, and a recital of unpublished work and original musical compositions and lyrics.

In March 2014, journalist and author Patricia Stambuk visited MAPSE and gave a presentation and a round table discussion to the community and visitors. These talks were especially relevant to those people who were living on the island in the 1960s-70s, when

there were significant numbers of both Americans and Continental Chileans on Rapa Nui during the building of the Mataverí Airport. The importance of these interactions with outsiders, and how they shaped the contemporary history of the island, was highlighted and discussed.

In April 2014, Candace Gossen gave a lecture on the climatic history of the island based on her research sampling and analyzing sediments from the lake in Rano Kao. Her talk included sharing ideas for rainwater harvesting, wastewater reuse, and more.

Apuntes del Museo Volume 2 released

Volume 2 of MAPSE's Apuntes del Museo (in Spanish and English) was published in December 2013; visit apuntes.museorapanui.cl to download a copy. Articles include *Protection of Rapanui heritage* (Francisco Torres Hochstetter); *Heritage as a cultural legacy: basis for the validation of a Heritage Plan for Rapa Nui* (Technical Secretariat for Heritage); *Games, pastimes and other memories from my childhood* (Felipe Pakarati Tuki); *Petroglyphs on the ahu* (Felipe Armstrong); *History of Education on Easter Island 1956-1977* (Ana Maria Arredondo); *Political crosscurrents of Easter Island during the Popular Unity (UP) government: 1970 - 1973* (Rolf Forester & Sonia Montecino); *Excavation and prospection in Puna Pau 2013* (Sue Hamilton, Colin Richards, and Kate Welham).

WHAT'S NEW IN OCEANIA

Stabilizing Indigenous Languages Symposium held in Hilo, Hawai'i

(As reported on sil2014.hawaii-conference.com/; westhawaii.com and from Brigid Mulloy).

The 21st Stabilizing Indigenous Languages Symposium took place from 15-19 January 2014 at the Hilo Hawaiian Hotel & University of Hawai'i at Hilo Campus, Island of Hawai'i, in its newly completed Hawaiian language building, Hale Ōlelo. "He wa'a ke kula; na ka 'ōlelo e uli" (schools are canoes; language steers them) was the theme of the conference.

The State of Hawai'i, and the district of Hilo in particular on Hawai'i Island, has one of the highest concentrations of indigenous language speakers anywhere. Yet, fifty years ago, no children spoke Hawaiian in Hilo. The change is the result of aligning school programming with an official language status.

The conference included visits to language immersion programs from preschool to doctorate programs as well as post-visitation discussion groups. Challenges such as government testing, developing curricula, and parent involvement were also part of the conference program.

The conference included delegates from 25 states, 8 Canadian provinces and territories and 9 other nations. Participants from Rapa Nui included Alicia Jaquelina Teao Tuki, Jazmín Delfina Tuki, Elizabeth Paté Pakarati, and María Rubelinda Hotu Hey.

FIFO film festival in Tahiti presents Rapa Nui documentary *Te Kuhane o Te Tupuna*

(As reported on en.fifo-tahiti.com).

The documentary *Te Kuhane o Te Tupuna* (*The Spirit of the Ancestors*), directed by Leonardo Pakarati, was presented at the 11th Oceanian International Documentary Film Festival (FIFO) at the Maison de la Culture, Papeete, Tahiti in February 2014. Together with nine other documentary filmmakers from Oceania and Europe, Pakarati presented his project in a workshop for professionals called Le Oceania Pitch to an audience that included producers and television companies from Hawai'i, New Zealand, Sāmoa and France, among others. The project, which began development in 2011, was the winner of the Fondo Audiovisual de CORFO for 2011 and the Fondo Audiovisual de Consejo Nacional de la Cultura y las Artes for 2014. It is currently being shown on Rapa Nui and will be shown in Paris and London in 2014. The movie trailer can be viewed on vimeo.com.

Another movie filmed on Rapa Nui, *Te Hono Ki Rapa Nui*, by Piata Gardinier Hoskins of New Zealand, was shown at the festival. From the FIFO catalog: "The young Maori Mana discovers Rapa Nui [Easter Island] whose culture, history, and language evoke his Maori homeland. He is guided in his approach by an original character, an anti-establishment musician. This journey is an opportunity for Mana to connect with his heritage and line of descent." A brief trailer can be viewed on vimeo.com as well.

The Oceanian Screen, for local productions, showed *Rapa Nui, Filles des Marquises* by Mike Leyral of French Polynesia. An excerpted review from the FIFO website: "*Rapa Nui, filles des Marquises*, directed by Mike Leyral, won us over. This film is packed with emotion, intense and humorous, as well as being a humane and cultural adventure. Indeed Mike Leyral takes us to the heart of one of the most important cultural events on Easter Island, the 'Tapati' during which the 'Queen' of the island will be elected after being put to the test. The ancestral link that connects the people of Rapa Nui to the Marquesans is highlighted thanks to the warm presence of a dance group from the Marquesas Islands. The similarities between the tests in Tapati and those carried out in the Marquesas Islands are breath taking. From amusement to admiration, this immersion amongst the Rapanui moves the visiting Marquesan troupe."

WHAT'S NEW ELSEWHERE

Across the Pacific Conference in Norway to be held in June

(As reported on the Kon Tiki Museum website).

The 20th annual Across the Pacific Conference (organized by the New Zealand Studies Association together with the Norwegian Maritime Museum, and the Kon-Tiki Museum in association with the University of South Australia) will take place in Oslo, Norway, from 25-28 June 2014. Sessions include Polynesian Culture on Display; New Zealand & Scandinavia; Easter Island; Māori Literature; Pacific Voyaging (2 sessions); The Antarctic; Polynesian Literature; Polynesian Histories; Polynesian Identity in Television and Film; Politics & Policies within the Pacific; Europeans in the Pacific; E tu ki te waka o Tamarereti; The Sky is an Ocean; Screening New Zealand & the Pacific; Pacific Histories; Māori Culture & Identity; Flying Across the Pacific; New Zealand Multiculturalism & Nationhood; Pacific Settlements; and New Zealand & Māori Music.

Keynote speakers include Linda Tuhiwai Smith (University of Waikato), Susan Najita (University of Michigan), Witi Ihimaera (University of Auckland), Paul D'Arcy (Australian National University), Bjorn Basberg (Norwegian School of Economics), Edvard Hviding (University of Bergen), Helen Lee (La Trobe University), Roy Smith (Nottingham Trent University), Cluny MacPherson (Massey University), Paul Turnbull (University of Tasmania), Reidar Solsvik (Kon-Tiki Museum), and Dame Anne Salmond (University of Auckland).

Other conference events will include Wiremu Puke and his work within the National Maritime Museum as a carver using traditional stone tools, a screening of Dana Rothbergs's *White Lies* (Tuakiri Huna), and a post-screening conversation with Witi Ihimaera, author of *Medicine Woman*, on which the film was based; a screening of an extended extract of *The Navigators - Pathfinders of the Pacific*, produced by Sandford Low, a screening of an excerpt of the film *Kon Tiki*, and a boat excursion into the local fiords.

EASTER ISLAND FOUNDATION NEWS

2014 Easter Island Foundation scholarship winners announced

Providing scholarships to students of Rapanui ancestry who wish to further their education is a mission objective of the Easter Island Foundation. Due to the generosity of our donors and partners, especially the *Fraternal Order of Moai*, we were pleased to be able to award ten scholarships in 2014!



Lafquen Passalacqua Hucke (Fraternal Order of Moai 'Ohana Award — \$1000) is completing her final year of study at Universidad Católica de Temuco, Chile. She is working on her thesis in social anthropology entitled "Traditional medicine practice: medical agents, ethnoclassification, recollection and uses of the medical herbs in Rapa Nui." She is focusing on the documentation of ancient knowledge from oral traditions so that it is not lost. Lafquen is also concerned with the garbage situation on the island and is looking at ways to educate tourists and islanders alike about recycling and elimination of debris.

Paloma Riroroco Olguin

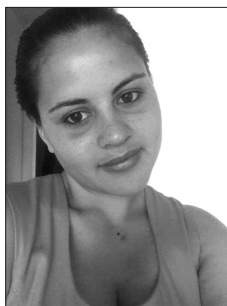
(Fraternal Order of Moai Tangata Manu Award — \$2000) has completed two years of study in medical technology at the Universidad Andres Bello in Santiago, Chile. Her dream is to open an early-treatment cancer center on Rapa Nui. She hopes that one day, with additional medical technology at home, people who suffer from serious illnesses may remain on the island for treatment instead of traveling to the continent and staying there alone. Additionally, she would like to help reduce the high mortality rate from cancer on the island by providing programs to educate islanders about different types of cancer, symptoms and potential treatments.



Oscar Jara Pakomio

(Fraternal Order of Moai Tangata Manu Award — \$2000) has completed two years of study in education at Pontificia Universidad Católica de Valparaíso, Chile. He chose the career of education because he loves sports, physical activity, and activities in nature. He hopes

to return to the island and work towards the creation of recreational activity venues to encourage healthy and active lifestyles to help lessen the effects of obesity, sedentary lifestyles, and diabetes. Oscar sees a need for better education of the Rapanui people, and hopes that those who study abroad will return to Rapa Nui to work in their chosen careers.



Ghislaine Tepano Tepano (Fraternal Order of Moai Tangata Manu Award — \$2000), has completed two years of study in economics and business at the Universidad Andres Bello in Santiago, Chile. She would like to work in Santiago to gain experience in the world of finance and then return to Rapa Nui to start

her own eco-friendly and sustainable company, with the goal of helping to preserve Rapanui culture.

Pamina Olivares Paoa

(Easter Island Foundation Award — \$1500) is in her final year at the School of Architecture and Design, Pontificia Universidad Católica, Valparaíso. The study of architecture has enabled her to combine two subjects she is passionate about: art and history. After she completes

her studies, she would like to work towards reinforcing two of the island's economic mainstays: fishing and tourism. One of her ideas is to develop a long-term project working with other disciplines towards creating a marine reserve for endangered species, with the goal of having a sustainable ecosystem. She is also interested in preserving the ancestral methods of fishing to both revive these traditions and use them for tourism. She envisions development of an interpretive trail along the coastline that emphasizes the importance of fishing and marine resources to the ancestral Rapanui. This trail will help educate visitors about the island's coastal resources.



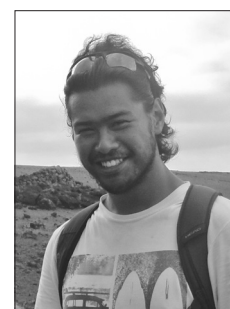
Taniera Ika Goldman (Easter Island Foundation Award — \$1500) is studying business engineering at the Universidad de Chile. Once Taniera was enrolled, she was able to work out an agreement with the faculty at her institution so that students from Rapa Nui would be able to get a special entry to this academically

demanding school. Taniera feels that the greatest challenge facing Rapa Nui today is the increase of population and cumulative waste. The island has a very fragile ecosystem, thus the impacts from the increase of both the population and vehicles is very damaging. In her opinion, it is important to be able to control the

population on Rapa Nui because the existing natural resources are not sufficient for the entire community, which can be seen in the frequent blackouts of electricity and the poor water quality. This situation, plus the amount of waste that is being produced, affects the entire natural and cultural heritage of the island. She feels it is necessary to start with environmental education, so the community can gain more awareness of the real problems generated by cumulative waste and so they can act in favor of common wellbeing through a change in daily habits. She believes this must be tied in to an immigration law that controls the number of people that come to Rapa Nui and should require a type of visa that clarifies who the people are, what their intentions are, and how long they are planning to stay.

Jose Calderon Fati (Easter Island Foundation Award — \$2000) has completed two years studying civil engineering at the Universidad Católica del Norte de Antofagasta. He is interested in finding solutions to the environmental problems that have arisen on the island in recent years with the gradual

increase of the population. He has several long-term projects that he would like to accomplish. These include working with CONAF (Corporación Nacional Forestal) to solve the problem of land erosion; working with SEREMI (Secretario Regional Ministerial) to solve the emerging problem of groundwater contamination; unifying recycling jobs within the municipality to be able to transport waste back to the mainland for reuse; creating a culture of recycling and environmental care in homes using local media such as television and radio; initiating projects that promote clean energy generation; and working on the creation of a marine park in the waters of Rapa Nui that promotes a sustainable ecosystem.



Tiare de la Puente Bernarcer (Friends of Rapa Nui Award — \$2000) has completed three years of study in medicine at the Universidad de Chile, Santiago. When she graduates, she would like to start a project that will be directed primarily towards the Rapa Nui community, mainly intended for people who suffer from

chronic diseases that require continuous monitoring. Tiare feels that one of the main problems that Rapa Nui faces today is the lack of specialist doctors and

the equipment necessary to diagnose and treat patients with chronic diseases. For this reason, when a person needs medical assistance, it is necessary to travel to the mainland for treatment. Although medical specialists from the mainland make periodic visits to the Hanga Roa Hospital, they do not come often enough to treat long-term ailments such as cardiovascular disease, cancer, chronic respiratory disease, hypertension, and diabetes. Later stages of diabetes, for example, can produce chronic renal failure and require a hemodialysis machine and trained personnel to conduct the sessions. There is no medical facility on the island today to treat patients with chronic renal failure, so people requiring daily dialysis sessions must move to the mainland, losing the closeness of their family, quality of life and routines of the island, not to mention the emotional and psychological strain involved in this type of intervention. Tiare feels this problem could be solved by the creation of a dialysis center at the new Hanga Roa Hospital with a medical team of doctors, nurses and aides.

Pechquinco Passalacqua Hucke

(Easter Island Foundation Education Award — \$2000) has completed two years in the study of education at Universidad Católica de Temuco. After finishing her degree, she would like to continue studying in mainland Chile to deepen her knowledge and later go back to Rapa Nui to teach in one of

the schools there. When she was young, she realized she wanted to be a teacher. She believes in educating children so that they have solid tools to deal with life and to contribute to society. She also believes that children should learn about and be proud of their ethnic background. Additionally, Pechquinco feels that one of the most difficult challenges facing Rapa Nui today is the management of garbage. She feels that one way to solve this problem would be limiting the amount of incoming disposable products and changing these for recyclable products.



Kena Tepano Riroroko (Nicolas Haoa Haoa Sr. Award — \$2000) is studying law at Universidad de las Americas in Santiago. She is interested in continuing her study of law in Chile and abroad, and in using her experiences to help the Rapanui people. Becoming a lawyer, with the roots and vision of a Rapanui islander, is a great motivation to her. Kena feels that one of the greatest issues affecting Rapa Nui today is the increase in immigration, which impairs the island's culture by an increase in pollution, affecting both the environment and health in general, as well as impacting the sustainable development of the island. After she graduates, Kena wants to return to Rapa Nui and help the community discuss this issue and find solutions to this problem. This will require the union of the Rapanui people with a willingness and desire to move forward to protect the island, its people and its culture so that they will prevail for future generations.

Rapa Nui Journal back issues now available online

The Easter Island Foundation is pleased to announce that *Rapa Nui Journal* back issues are now accessible on our website! Early volumes (1-7) can be downloaded as entire issues. For later volumes (8-25), pdfs of individual articles are available. Please visit the Table of Contents section of the EIF website (www.islandheritage.org) and click on the pdf links below each listed issue. We are greatly indebted to Dan and Katherine Ingersoll for getting this project off the ground by scanning and providing pdfs of the first 23 volumes; together with RNJ Editor Mara Mulrooney, Bishop Museum Archaeology Collections Intern Channing Stephens provided pdfs of the remaining volumes and separated the back issues into individual articles for the website. This project will help researchers and other interested individuals with accessing the bulk of the corpus of the *Rapa Nui Journal* since it began publication in 1986. Current issues will continue to be available by subscription only; once an issue has been in print for two years, it will be added to the website. We thank everyone who helped this project come to fruition! Hard copy back issues from various years are still available for purchase from the EIF; please contact our office for details.